

## **M e m o r a n d u m**

Date: February 28, 2002

To: California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee

From: Patrick Wright  
Director

Subject: Subcommittee Reports – Action Item

### **Summary**

Attached are reports from subcommittees established by the Committee at the December 5, 2001 meeting, including the Drinking Water, Environmental Justice, and Watershed Subcommittees. Reports from the Ecosystem Restoration, Water Supply, and Water Use Efficiency Subcommittees will be available at the March 12, 2002 Committee meeting.

Staff recommends the Committee approve the Subcommittee 2002 priorities and measures of success.

Staff also recommends the Committee establish two other subcommittees: Delta Levees and Habitat Subcommittee, and a Steering Committee Subcommittee.

### **Background**

#### **Approval of Subcommittee 2002 Priorities and Measures of Success**

The six Subcommittees that the Committee established in December 2001 are meeting and developing their 2002 priorities and measures they will use to assess their effectiveness. The Drinking Water, Environmental Justice, and Watershed Subcommittees have met and their reports, are attached.

The Water Supply Subcommittee (referred to as the Water Management Subcommittee in December) will meet February 28, 2002, and the Ecosystem Restoration Subcommittee and Water Use Efficiency Public Advisory Committee will meet on March 6, 2002. Their reports will be available at the March 12, 2002 meeting.

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#### **CALFED Agencies**

##### **California**

The Resources Agency  
Department of Water Resources  
Department of Fish and Game  
The Reclamation Board  
Delta Protection Commission  
Department of Conservation  
San Francisco Bay Conservation  
and Development Commission

California Environmental Protection Agency  
State Water Resources Control Board  
Department of Health Services  
Department of Food and Agriculture

##### **Federal**

Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Geological Survey  
Bureau of Land Management  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Forest Service  
Department of Commerce  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Western Area Power Administration

Approval of the Subcommittee priorities and measures for success will facilitate Committee action with regards to its priorities and meeting schedule for 2002.

**Establishing Delta Levees and Habitat and Steering Subcommittees**

Delta Levees and Habitat Subcommittee - At the December 5, 2001 Committee meeting, Program staff was asked to develop a recommendation regarding the appropriate relationship between the existing Delta Levees and Habitat Public Advisory Committee and the California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee. As background, the Delta Levees and Habitat Advisory Committee was established by statute in the early 1990's to provide a forum for the Department of Water Resources and the Department of Fish and Game to coordinate levee integrity and habitat restoration. This forum has been very effective. However, there is a need to establish a better connection between this group and CALFED stakeholders for the following reasons:

- Many CALFED stakeholders aren't informed on Levee Program issues in a timely manner.
- Many decisions continue to be made without general CALFED stakeholder input.
- The Levees Committee would be more effective if it had direct access to the Bay-Delta Committee and its subcommittees for addressing Program integration and crosscutting issues.

Therefore, CALFED staff recommends that the existing Delta Levees and Habitat Advisory Committee become a California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee subcommittee. The new Delta Levees and Habitat Subcommittee will regularly report to the Committee on Levee Program issues and receive feedback as needed. Attached is a draft description and priorities.

Steering Committee Subcommittee – On January 23, 2002, the Chairs of the Bay-Delta Committee subcommittees met with the Committee chairs and other members to discuss priorities and assist with management of the Committee. This meeting was successful in that it was a productive forum for the members to exchange information, facilitate integration of the subcommittees' work and to discuss priorities. At this time, we anticipate the group will meet on a continuing basis. CALFED legal counsel has advised that a committee made up of the subcommittee chairs would be considered an advisory subcommittee, subject to open meeting requirements under Government Code section 11121 (c). As a result, staff recommends the Chair establish the Steering Committee. Attached is a draft description and major outcomes from the January 23 meeting.

**Recommended Actions**

- Adopt Subcommittee priorities and measures for success
- Establish Delta Levees and Habitat Subcommittee and appoint chairs
- Establish Steering Committee Subcommittee

Attachments

